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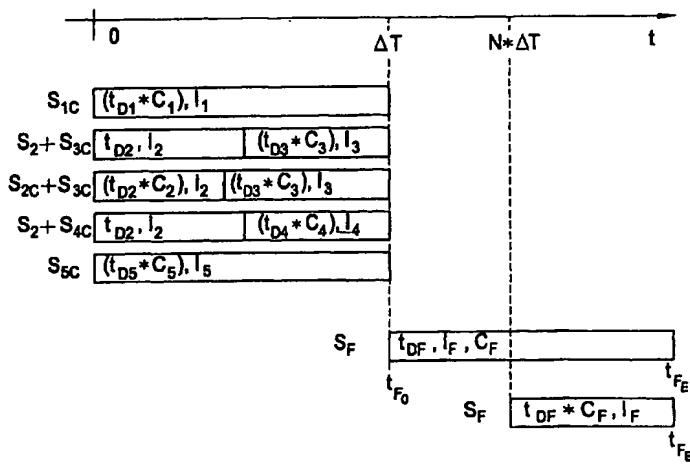
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(54) Title: METHOD TO SELECT RECORDINGS BY THEIR DURATION



WO 03/077546 A2

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a method for the selection of stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) in which, together with the video programs ( $S_i$ ), their running time ( $t_{D_i}$ ) and, if necessary, an information item ( $I_i$ ) about the content, for example the genre, are stored and also a playback device (1) for video programs ( $S_i$ ). To take account of a specified time interval ( $\Delta T$ ) and optimally utilize said time duration ( $\Delta T$ ), provision is made, on the basis of the specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ), for those video programs ( $S_n$ ) to be automatically selected from the stored video programs ( $S_i$ ) whose running time ( $t_{D_n}$ ), multiplied by any applicable compression factor ( $C_n$ ), is shorter than or equal to the specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ). As a result of the method according to the invention, all those video programs ( $S_n$ ) are consequently offered whose duration with the applicable compression, if any, is within the specified time duration ( $\Delta T$ ). Furthermore, as a result of compression of a subsequent video program ( $S_F$ ) transmitted after the time duration ( $\Delta T$ ), the available time duration ( $\Delta T$ ) can be prolonged and, consequently, the offer of those video programs ( $S_n$ ) that are within the prolonged time duration ( $N \times \Delta T$ ) can be increased.